

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 12064 300916Z

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ACTION SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 533

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12064

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EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENGR
SUBJ: CONSULTATION WITH OIL COMPANIES

REF: STATE 230998

1. ON SEPTEMBER 29, I CONVEYED SUBSTANCE REFTEL TO MINISTER MINES SADLI. HE SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD OUR RESPONSE AND ASSURED ME GOI DID NOT INTEND TAKE "UNILATERAL" ACTION. FIRST STEP WILL BE TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH JULIUS TAHIYA, PRESIDENT CALTEX INDONESIA, IN HOPES AGREEABLE SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND. HE INDICATED ALSO WILLINGNESS EXPLORE ALTERNATIVES AS SUGGESTED REFTEL. HE ADDED COMMENT THAT GOI HAD DEALT AMICABLY WITH CALTEX IN CONTRACT REVISION IN PAST. APPROACH TO USG WAS NEW BECAUSE NOW GOI, RATHER THAN PERTAMINA, SETTING OIL POLICY.

2. HE THEN SAID HE OWED ME APOLOGY SINCE HE HAD RAISED POSSIBILITY MY SEEING PRESIDENT SUHARTO. THIS HAD BEEN HIS IDEA AND WIDJOJO'S, BUT MINISTER OF STATE SUDHARMONO HAD RAISED QUESTION WHETHER MEETING AT INDONESIAN INITIATIVE REALLY NECESSARY. SUDHARMONO HAD SAID, HOWEVER, IF I WISHED REQUEST APPOINTMENT, IT WOULD BE GRANTED.

3. I REPLIED THAT IMPLICATIONS OF INDONESIAN OIL POLICY HAD BEARING ON OVERALL RELATIONS AND I FELT PRESIDENT
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SHOULD BE AWARE OF THEM. HOWEVER, I DID NOT FEEL I HAD

BASIS AT THIS TIME TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT.
I ASKED SADLI'S HELP IN ARRANGING MEETING WITH SUDHARMONO,
AFTER WHICH FURTHER CONSIDERATION CAN BE GIVEN TO APPROACH
TO PRESIDENT.

4. FYI-I FEEL SADLI HAS MESSAGE AND THAT GOI WILL SEEK
AVOID UNILATERAL ACTION LIKELY FURTHER EXACERBATE OUR CON-
GRESSIONAL PROBLEM. I WILL REINFORCE MESSAGE WITH
SUDHARMONO. IF INDONESIANS HAVE CHANGED MIND ABOUT MY
SEEING SUHARTO AT THEIR INITIATIVE, I WOULD PREFER NOT SEEK
APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT UNTIL I CAN DO SO ON BASIS FULL
FOLLOW-UP ON CAMP DAVID MATTERS, INCLUDING FIRM FIGURES FOR
ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND OUR DEFINITE IDEAS
ON JOINT COMMISSION. END FYI. NEWSOM

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